Amendments to the Claims

1. (Currently amended) A release composition comprising:
   (1) from about 10^{-4}% to about 20%, by weight of the release composition, of at least one skin care active, said skin care active comprising chitosan;
   (2) from about 0.1% to about 60 %, by weight of the release composition, of a release agent, wherein the release agent has a HLB value of at least about 3 and is selected from the group consisting of nonionic surfactants, polymeric surfactants, and mixtures thereof; and
   (3) from about 0.1% to about 95 %, by weight of the release composition, of a barrier protectant;
   wherein the release composition is semi-solid or solid at 20°C and at least partially transferable to a target skin surface.

2. (Original) The release composition of Claim 1 wherein the skin care active has a water solubility of at least 0.1 grams of skin care active per 100 grams of water at 25°C.

3. (Original) The release composition of Claim 1 wherein the skin care active is selected from the group consisting of skin protectants, protease inhibitors, chelating agents, pH control agents, anti-microbial agents, anti-biotics, vitamins and mixtures thereof.

4. (Original) The release composition of Claim 3 wherein the skin care active further comprises ingredients selected from the group consisting of hexamidine and its salts and derivatives, such as hexamidine diisethionate, triacetin, phytic acid, ethylenediamaine tetraacetic acid, phenylsulfonyl fluorides, vitamins, and mixtures thereof.

5. (Original) The release composition of Claim 1 wherein the release agent is substantially hydrophilic and oleophilic.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently amended) The release composition of Claim [6] 1 wherein the nonionic surfactant is selected from the group consisting of alkoxylated C12-C50 fatty alcohols, alkoxylated C12-C50 fatty acids, alkoxylated C12-C50 fatty acid esters, alkoxylated C12-C50 fatty acid

amides, wherein the nonionic surfactant is alkoxylated by C2-C6 alkoxyl groups and has a degree of alkoxylation from about 1 to about 110; glyceryl esters; sorbitan esters; alkyl glycosides; and their alkoxylated derivatives; and mixtures thereof.

8. (Original) The release composition of Claim 7 wherein the alkoxyl group is selected from the group consisting of ethoxy, propoxy, and mixtures thereof.

9. (Currently amended) The release formulation of Claim [6] 1 wherein the polymeric surfactant is selected from the group consisting of poloxomers, poloxamines, alkyl-substituted acrylic acid copolymers, and mixtures thereof.

10. (Original) The release composition of Claim 1 wherein the barrier protectant is selected from the group consisting of C14-C60 fatty alcohols; C14-C60 fatty acids; C14-C60 fatty acid esters; natural waxes; paraffin waxes; synthetic waxes; modified polysiloxanes having alkyl, phenyl or alkylphenyl groups; animal oils, and hydrogenated animal oils and waxes; and mixtures thereof.

11. (Original) The release composition of Claim 1 further comprising from about 0.1% to about 95% by weight of the release composition, of an emollient.

12. (Original) The release composition of Claim 11 wherein the emollient is selected from the group consisting of petroleum based emollients; polyolpolyester; fatty acid ester emollients; vegetable oils, hydrogenated vegetable oils and waxes; humectants; fatty alcohol ethers; and mixtures thereof.

13. (Currently amended) The release composition of Claim 1 further comprising limited water soluble skin care actives selected form the group consisting of talc, topical starch, zinc oxide, zinc acetate, zinc carbonate, and the like, kaolin, live yeast cell derivatives, microporous cellulose, colloidal oatmeal, cholecalciferol, Peruvean balsam oil, protein hydrolysate ~~hydrlysate~~, racemic methionine, Vitamin A, Vitamin E, and the like, aloe vera, and mixtures thereof.

14. (Currently amended) An article, comprising:
    a. a dispensing means comprising an absorbent article; and

b. a release composition applied to at least a portion of the dispensing means, the release composition comprising:

(1) from about 10^{-4}% to about 20%, by weight of the release composition, of at least one skin care active, said skin care active comprising chitosan;

(2) from about 0.1% to about 60 %, by weight of the release composition, of a release agent; and

(3) from about 0.1% to about 95 %, by weight of the release composition, of a barrier protectant;

wherein the release composition is semi-solid or solid at 20°C and at least partially transferable to a wearer's skin.

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Currently amended) The article of Claim 14 wherein the dispensing means ~~comprises an absorbent article~~ is selected from the group consisting of a sanitary napkin, a pantiliner, incontinence pad, and a diaper.

17. (Currently amended) A method for effectively delivering one or more skin care actives to skin, comprising:

(a) applying to the skin an absorbent article ~~comprising a dispensing means~~ and a release composition disposed on at least a portion of the ~~dispensing means~~ absorbent article;

(b) transferring at least a portion of the release composition to the skin;

(c) exposing the release composition to moisture; and

(d) releasing one or more skin care active ingredients from the release composition;

wherein the release composition is semi-solid or solid at 20°C and comprises:

(1) from about 10^{-4}% to about 20%, by weight of the release composition, of at least one skin care active, said skin care active comprising chitosan;

(2) from about 0.1% to about 60 %, by weight of the release composition, of a release agent; and

(3) from about 0.1% to about 95 %, by weight of the release composition, of a barrier protectant.

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Original) The method of Claim 17 wherein the skin care active further comprises ingredients selected from the group consisting of hexamidine and its salts and derivatives, such as hexamidine diisethionate, triacetin, phytic acid, ethylenediamaine tetraacetic acid, phenylsulfonyl fluorides, vitamins, and mixtures thereof.

20. (Original) The method of Claim 17 wherein the barrier protectant is selected from the group consisting of C14-C60 fatty alcohols; C14-C60 fatty acids; C14-C60 fatty acid esters; natural waxes; paraffin waxes; synthetic waxes; modified polysiloxanes having alkyl, phenyl or alkylphenyl groups; animal oils and hydrogenated animal oils and waxes; and mixtures thereof.